

Facility: Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Title: Maintenance Operations Complex and Residence

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

For the reasons briefly presented below and based on an evaluation of the information contained in the supporting references enumerated below, I have determined that the slight modification to the building location of the Refuge Residence on the Rapids Lake Unit for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge as described in the attached Supplemental Environmental Assessment is not a major Federal action which would significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. An Environmental Impact Statement will, accordingly, not be prepared.

Reasons:

The modification is being made to meet the request of an adjacent neighbor and the San Francisco Town Board and can be done without diminishing Service objectives.

There is no indication that the proposed septic system will have any impact on local wells nor that other septic systems in the area are having an impact on local wells.

The addition of a single family house will not have meaningful impact on County Road 45 traffic.

The modified location has been previously disturbed, is free of hazardous materials, and is under Fee Title by the Service.

The modified location is adequate in size to accommodate full development and not create conflict with public use facilities while meeting the requirements of Carver County Ordinance No. 47 and associated Land and Water Management Plans.

The modified location is located within an upland area and development at this site would not be visually intrusive.


Additionally, the modified building location of the Refuge Residence at Rapids Lake would still:

- Provide better Service identification and improve awareness of Refuge resource values and management activities.
- Provide improved administration, operations and public use of the Refuge

-Provide long-range site stability and flexibility.

Supporting References:

1. Supplemental Environmental Assessment
2. Section 7 Consultation


CHARLES M. WOOLEY
~~ACTING~~ Regional Director, FWS, Region 3
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